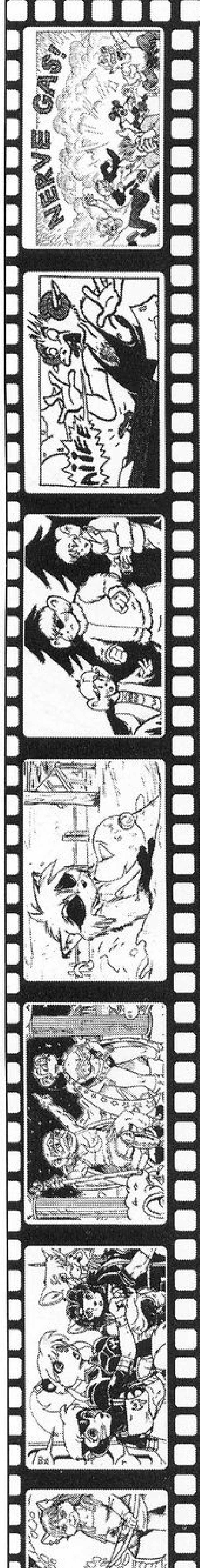
SHANDA FANTASY ARTS

31 SEPT 2004
$4.99

MATURE READERS

Carole Curtis

Katmandu



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CHIPMUNK MASSUSE

The INNER CIRCLE

GUY GILCHRIST BRINGS NEW PROJECTS TO SFA

Guy Gilchrist, the syndicated cartoonist behind MUDPIE and YOUR ANGELS SPEAK, is bringing his strip creations to comic book life in partnership with Shanda Fantasy Arts. MUDPIE tells the story of a young cat named MUDPIE, and his exciting adventures with his girlfriend Pawdette and his guardian angel, Angelmouse. It is scheduled to debut as a 40-page comic in February, 2005. YOUR ANGELS SPEAK is an strip cartoon utilizing angels of all ages, races, and nationalities who deliver inspirational messages. This SFA comic will be on The stands in December, 2004. Both comics are recommended for all ages.

Guy Gilchrist has been an artist and writer of world renown for over two decades. As the syndicated cartoonist of NANCY, YOUR ANGELS SPEAK, NIGHT LIGHTS & PILLOW FIGHTS, MUDPIE, THE POETRY GUY, THE MUPPETS and THE ROCK CHANNEL, his work has been shown in both newspapers and museums worldwide. Samples of MUDPIE can be viewed at http://www.gilchriststudios.com/mudpie/mudpiecomics.asp while YOUR ANGELS SPEAK can be viewed at http://www.yourangelsspeak.com/

Mike and Carole

www.shandafantasyarts.net

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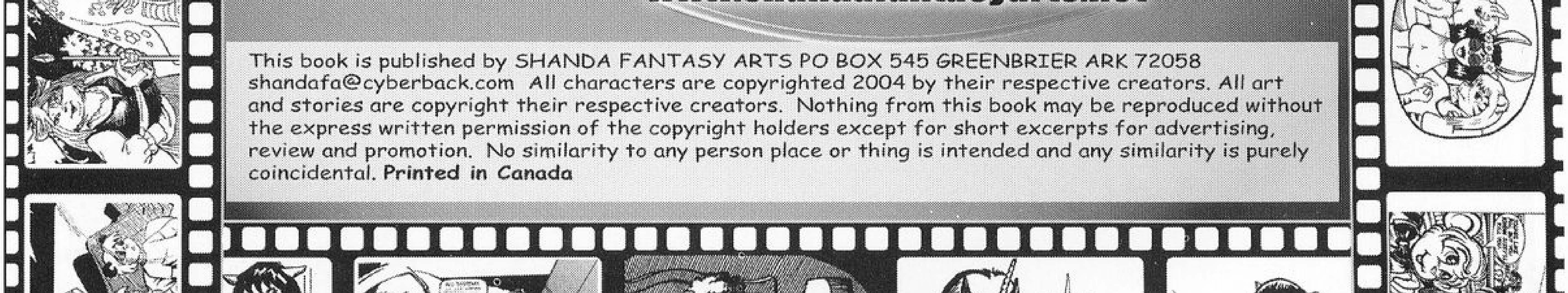
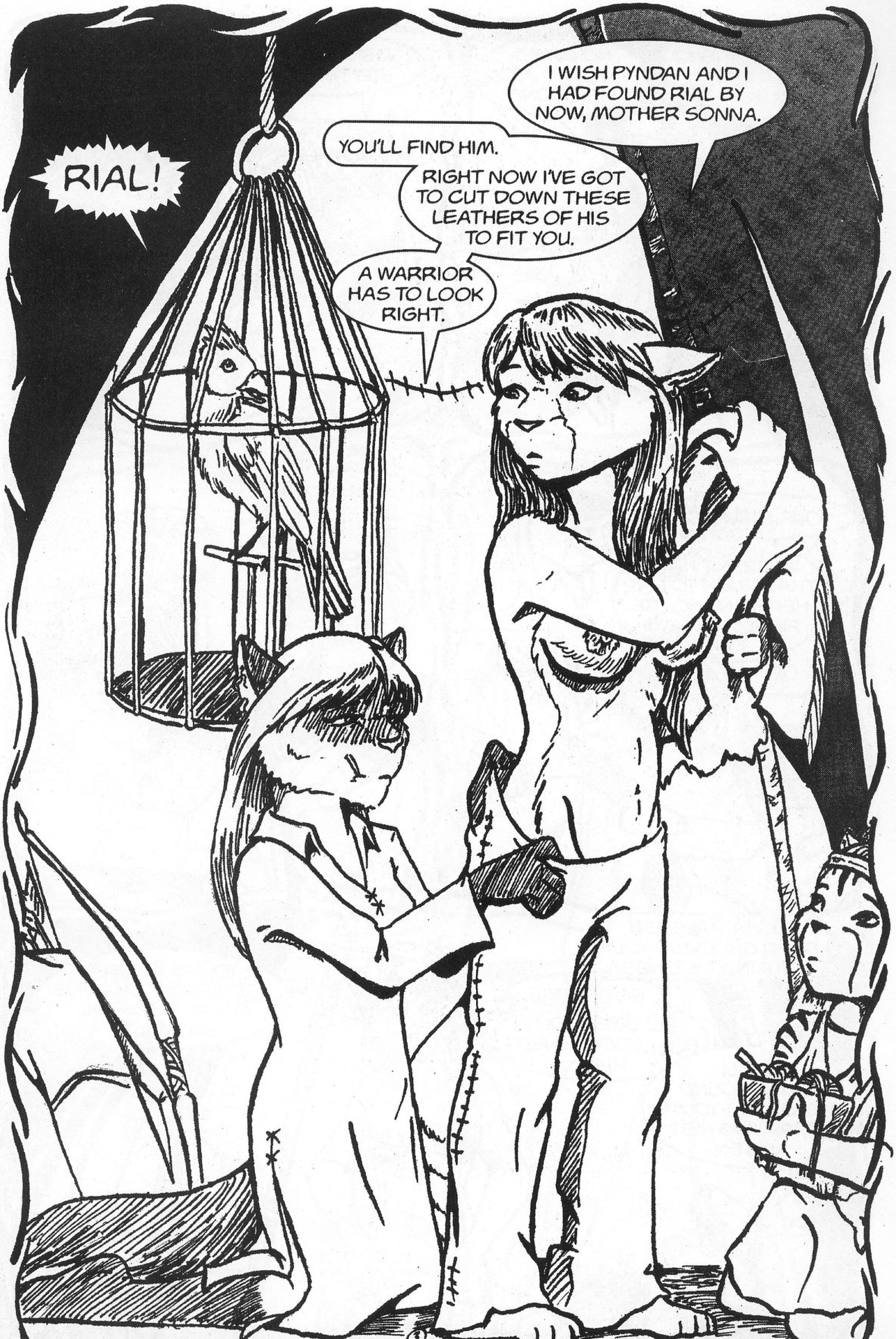


Katmandu
"FAMILY MATTERS"
SHE'S SO *CUTE* MOTHER! I'M SO GLAD YOU HAD TWO GIRLS THIS TIME!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE AROUND TO HELP ME WITH THEM, LOANZAH!
STORY: CAROLE CURTIS
ART: SARAH SILVERMAN
LETTERS: CHARLES GRAY
①

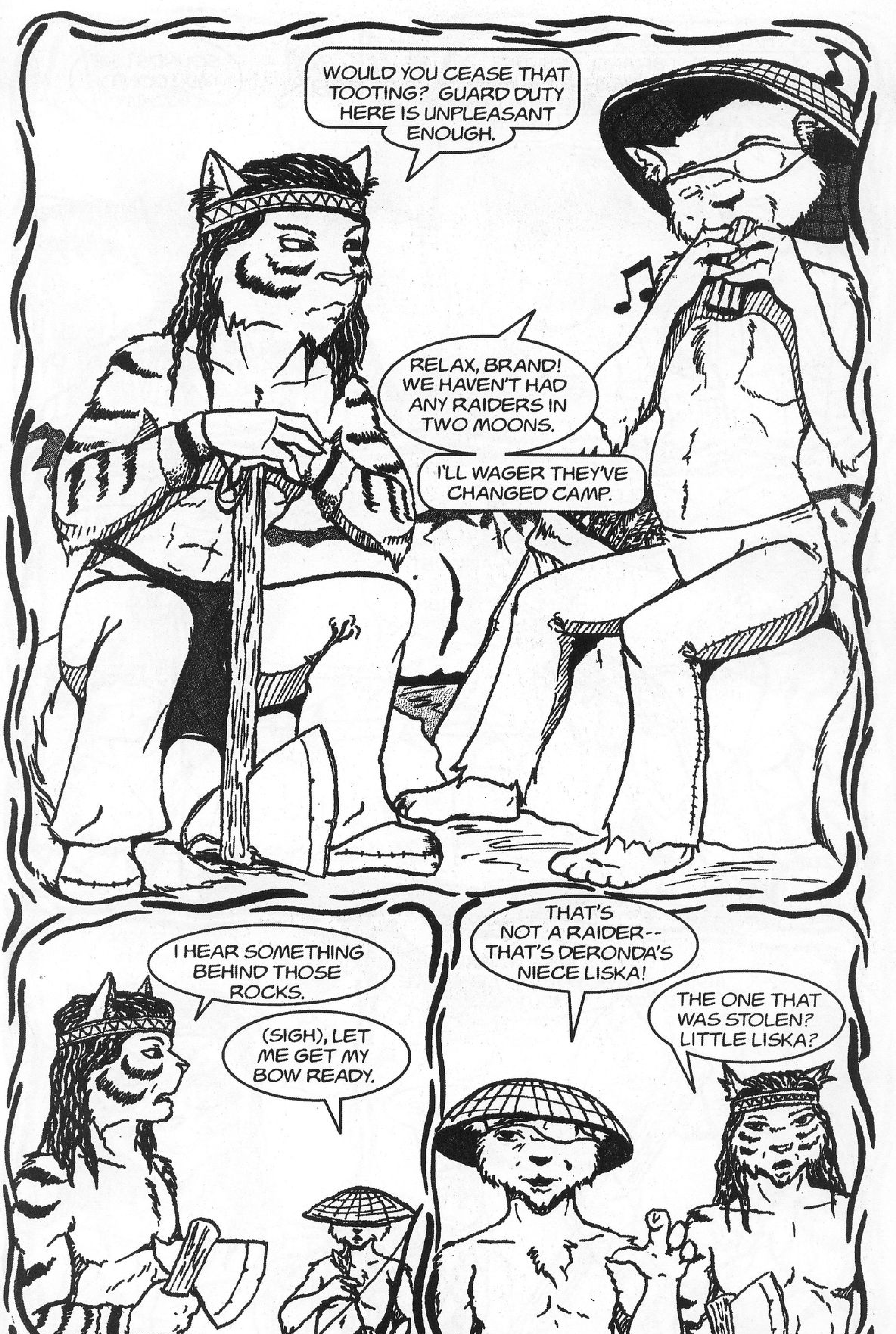
OH I LOVE TAKING CARE OF MY BABY SISTER!
THEN BRING THEA OVER HERE. IT'S TIME TO FEED HER
AND A STORY, GO GET YOUR BROTHERS.
MOTHER, YOU'VE TOLD US LOTS OF STORIES ABOUT LISKA AND MARKREE, BUT YOU NEVER TOLD US ABOUT WHEN SHE BROUGHT
HIM INTO HER TRIBE.
ALL RIGHT. NOW, YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT LISKA AND MARKREE WERE LIVING WITH THEIR AUNT WHEN RIAL STOLE HER FOR A SLAVE. RIAL WAS TAKEN IN BATTLE LATER AND THE CHIEF MADE LISKA A WARRIOR.

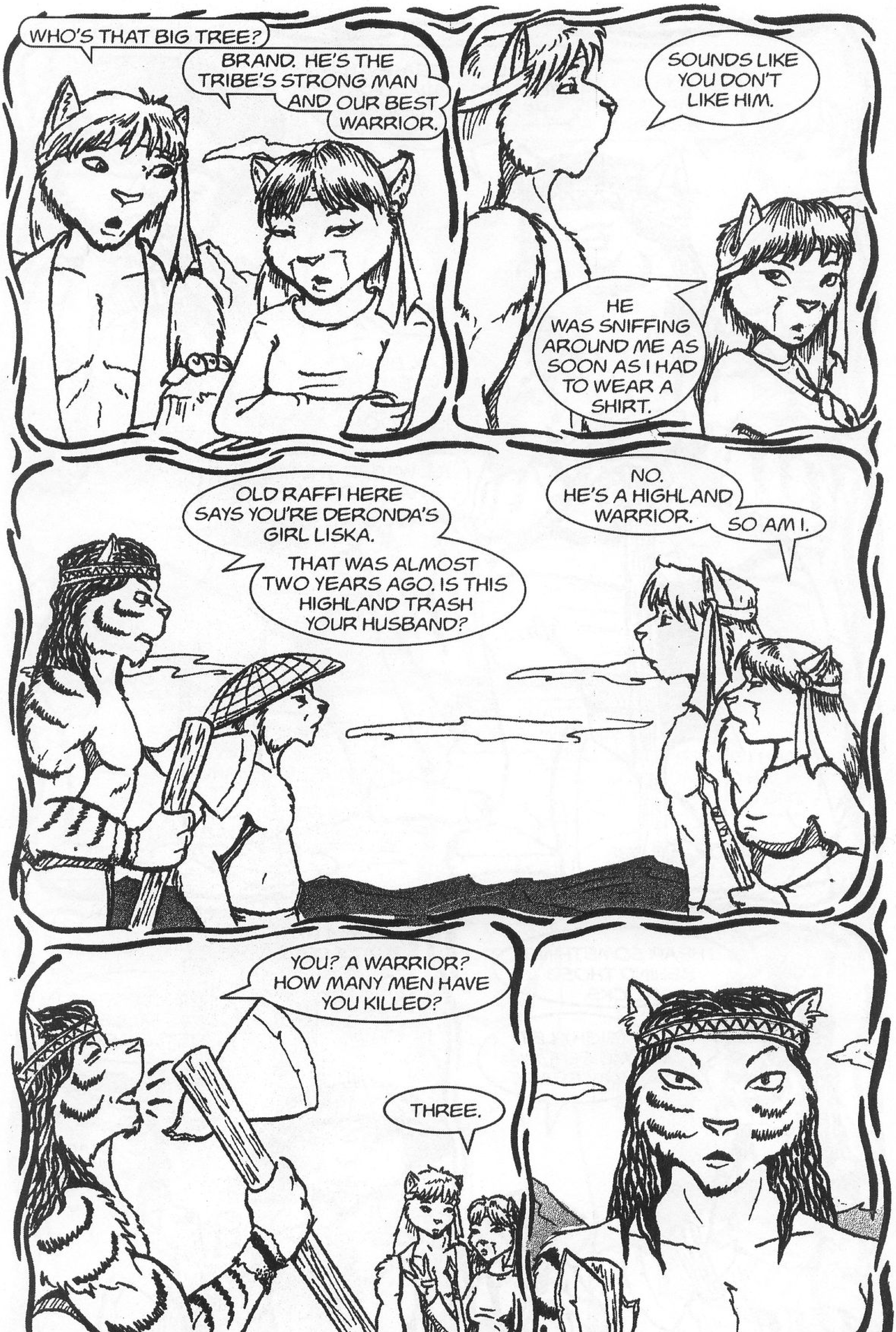

RIAL!
I WISH PYNDAN AND I HAD FOUND RIAL BY NOW, MOTHER SONNA.
YOU'LL FIND HIM.
RIGHT NOW I'VE GOT TO CUT DOWN THESE LEATHERS OF HIS TO FIT YOU.
A WARRIOR HAS TO LOOK RIGHT.

THAT BOWL ISN'T TOO HEAVY, PANKA?
NO GA'MA, MY LEFT ARM IS STRONG.
LISKA, YOU'RE GETTING FAT!
WHAT?
YOUR STOMACH.
WE DON'T HAVE THAT MUCH TO EAT HERE AND YOU'RE FINALLY FILLING OUT-
OH MY.
LISKA, HAVE YOU BEEN CHECKING YOUR SHURINAR STONES?
NOT LATELY.
I'VE BEEN TOO BUSY LOOKING FOR RIAL.
WELL, YOU'VE FOUND PART OF HIM. YOU'RE CARRYING HIS KITTEN.
YOU'RE GONNA LOOK FUNNY CHASING GAME WITH A BIG STOMACH.

PYNDAN!
HEY PANKA, WHAT'S ALL THE EXCITEMENT?
LISKA SAYS SHE'S GOTTA MAKE A TRIP TODAY!
PYNDAN?
WE NEED TO GET THE RIDING LIZARDS READY.
A TRIP? WE BROUGHT PLENTY OF GAME IN YESTERDAY.
THERE'S BEEN NO TRAILING RIAL-

ALL RIGHT, LISKA, WE'RE READY.
BUT I NEED TO KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING.
WE'RE GOING TO THE PLAINS, TO MY OLD TRIBE. I WANT MY BROTHER MARKREE.
WHOA! THE PLAINS AREN'T SAFE FOR US. THEY'VE HAD TOO MANY RAIDS AND THAT'S WHY RIAL AND I NEVER WENT BACK AFTER WE-- TOOK YOU.
HM.
STILL, THAT'S WHERE I'M GOING. WE CAN'T FIND RIAL.
AND IT'S TIME I HAD SOMEONE TO HELP HUNT FOR OUR TENT.
ARE YOU GOING WITH ME OR NOT?


WOULD YOU CEASE THAT TOOTING? GUARD DUTY HERE IS UNPLEASANT ENOUGH.
RELAX, BRAND! WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY RAIDERS IN TWO MOONS.
I'LL WAGER THEY'VE CHANGED CAMP.
I HEAR SOMETHING BEHIND THOSE ROCKS.
(SIGH), LET ME GET MY BOW READY.
THAT'S NOT A RAIDER-- THAT'S DERONDA'S NIECE LISKA!
THE ONE THAT WAS STOLEN? LITTLE LISKA?

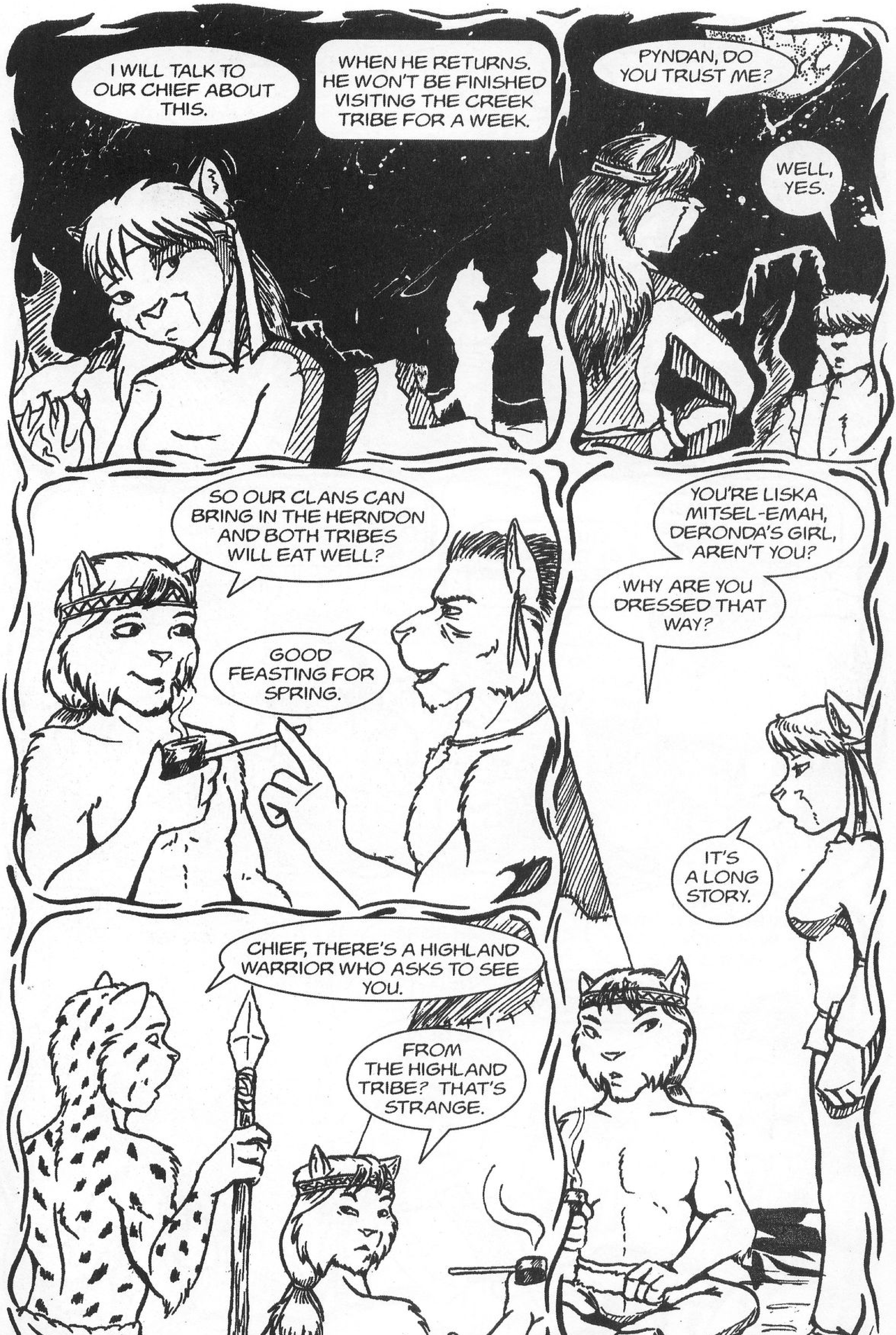

WHO'S THAT BIG TREE?
BRAND. HE'S THE TRIBE'S STRONG MAN AND OUR BEST WARRIOR.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU DON'T LIKE HIM.
HE WAS SNIFFING AROUND ME AS SOON AS I HAD TO WEAR A SHIRT.
OLD RAFFI HERE SAYS YOU'RE DERONDA'S GIRL LISKA.
THAT WAS ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO. IS THIS HIGHLAND TRASH YOUR HUSBAND?
NO. HE'S A HIGHLAND WARRIOR.
SO AM I.
YOU? A WARRIOR? HOW MANY MEN HAVE YOU KILLED?
THREE.

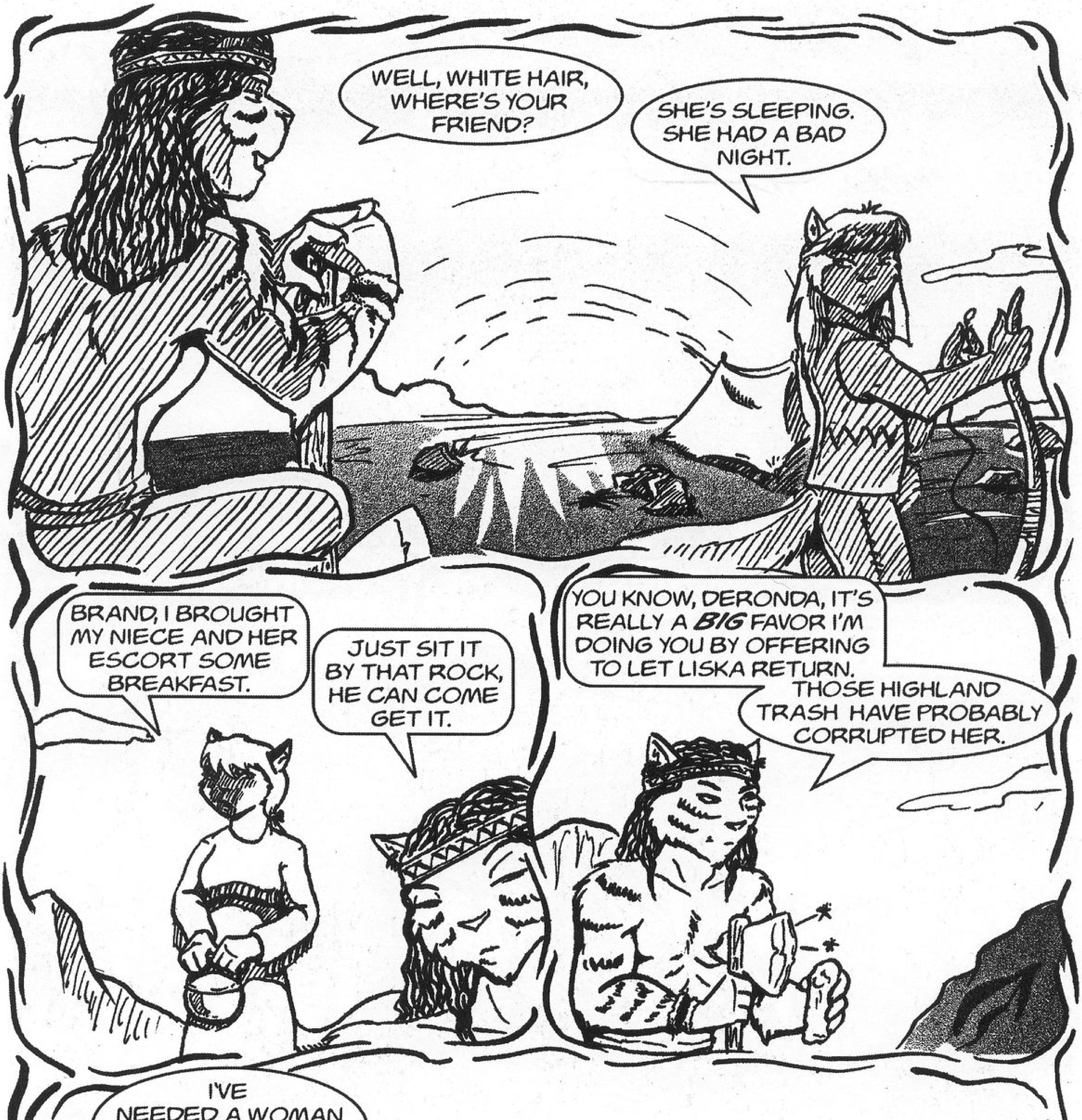
AUNT DERONDA!
WHAT IS IT, TORI?
I'M FIXING LUNCH!
LISKA-
MARKREE!
KEEP AWAY FROM HIM, HIGHLAND RAIDER!

YOU'D BETTER BE GOOD WITH THAT KNIFE, HIGHLAND TRASH. I WON'T MISS WITH MY AXE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BRAND?
MY JOB IS TO PROTECT THE CLAN FROM OUTSIDE
RAIDERS LIKE THIS SCUM.
YEAH, A FINE JOB YOU DID WHEN MY SISTER GOT STOLEN!
I WAS ON THE OTHER BORDER THEN. I WON'T LET HER TAKE *YOU*.
HE'S MY ***BROTHER!***
LISKA, MAYBE WE SHOULD LEAVE, COME BACK BY MOONLIGHT.
NO, PYANDAN!
I HAVE AN AUNT AND FAMILY HERE, I HAVE A RIGHT TO SEE THEM WHEN I WANT!

BRAND, I UNDERSTAND MY NIECE IS HERE. MAY I SEE HER?
CERTAINLY, DERONDA. JUST DON'T CROSS THE LINE I'VE DRAWN IN THE DUST. IT'S THERE FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION.
LISKA, IS THAT YOU? YOU LOOK DIFFERENT.
I *AM* DIFFERENT. THE HIGHLAND TRIBE GRANTED ME WARRIOR STATUS, AFTER I SLEW THREE HOPLITE RAIDERS..
DERONDA, I'VE COME FOR MARKREE. I HAVE MY OWN TENT. HE CAN BECOME A WARRIOR THERE.
HE HAS MY PERMISSION TO LEAVE WITH MY SISTER. I AM HIS FAMILY HERE AND I GIVE IT.
BUT I DO *NOT*. OUR CHIEF IS AWAY FOR SEVERAL DAYS AND LEFT *ME* IN CHARGE. THIS IS OBVIOUSLY SOME HIGHLAND TRICK.

JUST THINK, WE COULD BE HOME EATING MOTHER SONNA'S COOKING.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO STAY.
MY UNCLE'S ARGUING WITH BRAND NOW.
WASTE OF TIME.
WHAT'S THIS BRAND'S PROBLEM?
HE WAS ALWAYS TRYING TO GET MY UNCLE AND AUNT TO LET HIM MARRY ME. I DIDN'T WANT TO, SO THEY TOLD HIM NO.
(SIGH), BUT HE WAS A BIG MAN IN OUR TRIBE. I GUESS HE GOT BIGGER SINCE I LEFT.
THAT IS MY BROTHER'S DAUGHTER OUT THERE. SHE IS WELCOME AT MY FIRE.
SHE WEARS THE SASH OF A HIGHLAND WARRIOR.
IF SHE WERE TO REMOVE IT-- AND RENOUNCE THEM-- SHE COULD REJOIN OUR TRIBE.


I WILL TALK TO OUR CHIEF ABOUT THIS.
WHEN HE RETURNS. HE WON'T BE FINISHED VISITING THE CREEK TRIBE FOR A WEEK.
PYNDAN, DO YOU TRUST ME?
WELL, YES.
SO OUR CLANS CAN BRING IN THE HERNDON AND BOTH TRIBES WILL EAT WELL?
GOOD FEASTING FOR SPRING.
CHIEF, THERE'S A HIGHLAND WARRIOR WHO ASKS TO SEE YOU.
FROM THE HIGHLAND TRIBE? THAT'S STRANGE.
YOU'RE LISKA MITSEL-EMAH, DERONDA'S GIRL, AREN'T YOU?
WHY ARE YOU DRESSED THAT WAY?
IT'S A LONG STORY.

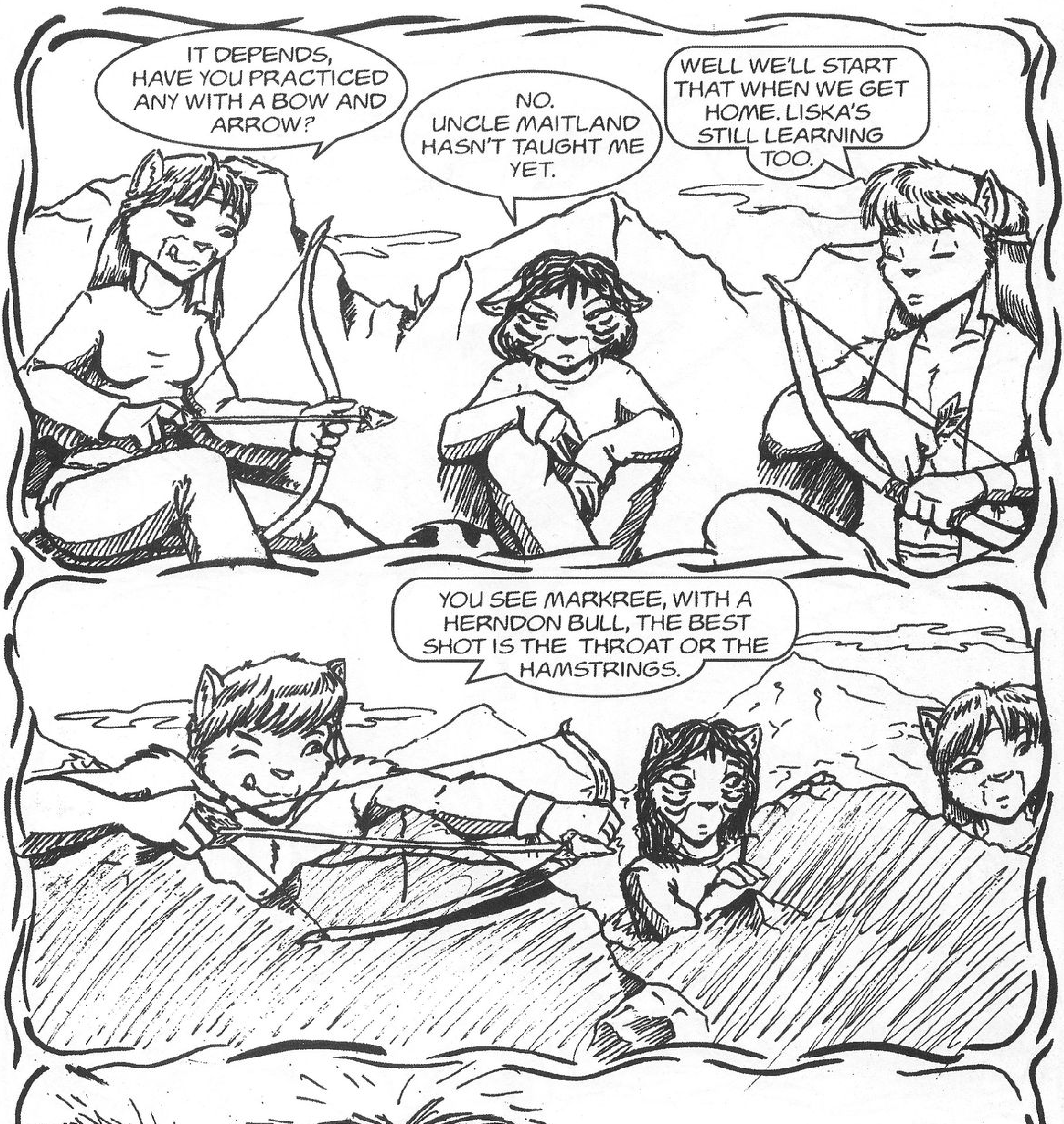

WELL, WHITE HAIR, WHERE'S YOUR FRIEND?
SHE'S SLEEPING. SHE HAD A BAD NIGHT.
BRAND, I BROUGHT MY NIECE AND HER ESCORT SOME BREAKFAST.
JUST SIT IT BY THAT ROCK, HE CAN COME GET IT.
YOU KNOW, DERONDA, IT'S REALLY A *BIG* FAVOR I'M DOING YOU BY OFFERING TO LET LISKA RETURN.
THOSE HIGHLAND TRASH HAVE PROBABLY CORRUPTED HER.
I'VE NEEDED A WOMAN IN MY TENT FOR SOME TIME.
I'M SURE LISKA LEARNED HER PLACE OVER THERE.
I'D BE GLAD TO TAKE HER IN.
I'M *SURE* YOU WOULD.

HERE IS SOME FOOD FOR YOU AND MY NIECE, HIGHLAND WARRIOR
THANK YOU, MISTRESS.
YOU'RE LISKA'S AUNT I FEEL I SHOULD APOLOGIZE.
MY COUSIN-BROTHER RIAL AND I
STILL HAD A LOT OF KITTENISH FOOLISHNESS TO WORK OUT WHEN WE RAIDED YOUR CAMP THAT DAY. WE DIDN'T THINK HOW TAKING LISKA WOULD AFFECT EVERYONE. I'M SORRY.
WHY DOESN'T "RIAL" SPEAK FOR HIMSELF?
HE WAS TAKEN CAPTIVE SOME TIME BACK. WE CAN'T LOCATE HIM.
OH.
WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME HOW LISKA BECAME A WARRIOR?
DERONDA!
YOUR NIECE HERE TELLS ME SHE'S HAVING A PROBLEM.
CHIEF FLINTSPEAR!

CHIEF, I MUST OBJECT. THESE TWO ARE FROM THE HIGHLAND TRIBE.
THEY HAVE STOLEN FROM US MANY TIMES, AND NOW THEY WISH TO TAKE ONE OF OUR YOUNG MEN.
BRAND SPEAKS THE TRUTH, LISKA. YOUR NEW TRIBE THINKS NOTHING OF
STEALING THE FOOD FROM OURS. OR EVEN TAKING OUR PEOPLE AS SLAVES.
WHAT SAY YOU?
I CANNOT SPEAK FOR ALL MY TRIBE, CHIEF FLINTSPEAR. BUT NEITHER I NOR MY COMPANION WILL STEAL FROM YOUR TRIBE AGAIN. IN ADDITION, WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO ENSURE THAT OTHERS OF OUR TRIBE WILL ONLY TRADE IN PEACE.
WE CAN GO FURTHER THAN THAT CHIEF. LISKA AND I WILL HUNT A HERNDON FOR THE FAMILIES OUR TRIBE HAS TAKEN FOOD FROM. WE WILL ENSURE THEIR FIRES OF FULL OF MEAT THIS SPRING.

THAT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR ALL THEY'VE DONE.
IT IS IF THE FAMILIES AGREE, BRAND.
I HAVE SPOKEN TO MOST CHIEF. THE WARRIOR'S PLAN SATISFIES THEM.
LISKA, YOU MAY TAKE YOUR BROTHER MARKREE WITH YOU.
HE CAN HELP YOU AND WHITE HAIR HUNT HERNDON FOR OUR TRIBE.
THIS IS WRONG.
HAVE YOU BEEN ELECTED CHIEF, BRAND?
LITTLE BROTHER, YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK IN OUR TRIBE.
FINE.
IT'LL BEAT WATCHING KITTENS HERE.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! TWO BULLS, ALONE!
AND RIGHT ON OUR WAY HOME! WE CAN TAKE ON TO OUR CAMP, AND ANOTHER TO DERONDA.
DO I GET TO SHOOT ONE?

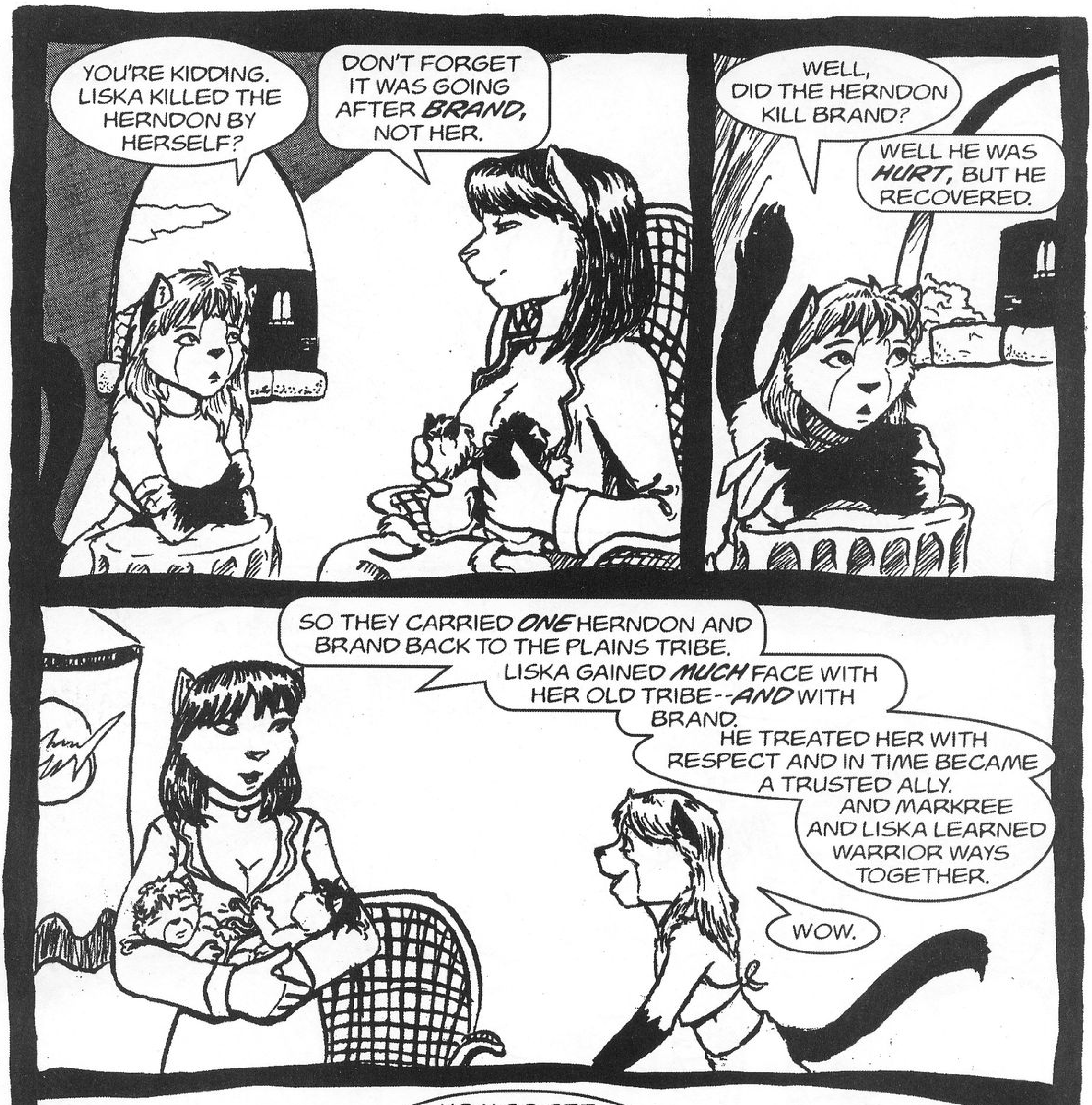

IT DEPENDS, HAVE YOU PRACTICED ANY WITH A BOW AND ARROW?
NO. UNCLE MAITLAND HASN'T TAUGHT ME YET.
WELL WE'LL START THAT WHEN WE GET HOME. LISKA'S STILL LEARNING TOO.
YOU SEE MARKREE, WITH A HERNDON BULL, THE BEST SHOT IS THE THROAT OR THE HAMSTRINGS.

DAMN!
HE'S STAMPEDING! GRAB THAT SPEAR MARKREE!
LET'S BRING HIM DOWN!
MEN.
NOW WHERE DID THAT OTHER BULL GO?
IT WAS HERE JUST NOW--

IF THOSE TWO NOISEMAKERS DIDN'T SCARE IT OFF NOTHING WILL.
MY BAD LUCK.

GETTING CLOSER... DON'T KNOW IF MY AXE WILL BE ENOUGH TO STOP HIM.
KRACK

WOW!
SO *THAT'S* WHAT HUNTING IS LIKE!
IT IS ON A *GOOD* DAY.
LET'S GET LISKA AND WE'LL--
--SLAUGHTER IT...


YOU'RE KIDDING. LISKA KILLED THE HERNDON BY HERSELF?
DON'T FORGET IT WAS GOING AFTER *BRAND,* NOT HER.
WELL, DID THE HERNDON KILL BRAND?
WELL HE WAS *HURT,* BUT HE RECOVERED.
SO THEY CARRIED *ONE* HERNDON AND BRAND BACK TO THE PLAINS TRIBE.
LISKA GAINED *MUCH* FACE WITH HER OLD TRIBE--*AND* WITH BRAND.
HE TREATED HER WITH RESPECT AND IN TIME BECAME A TRUSTED ALLY.
AND MARKREE AND LISKA LEARNED WARRIOR WAYS TOGETHER.
WOW.
NOW GO GET YOUR BROTHERS.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO LEARN DIAPER CHANGING TOGETHER.
EEEWWW....
END